

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Meissen

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 27 March 1952, the Bohnitzsch Kaserne on Highway 101 in Meissen (N 52/F 09) was occupied by an estimated 1,200 to 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. [redacted] the installation quartered a tank unit with about 50 T-34s and 1 motorcycle unit. On 24 March, about 22 trucks were seen west of the garages, and on 27 March, 20 sidecar motorcycles each mounting a machine gun were seen. Twelve tanks were noticed through the open doors of a garage. About 120 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia were engaged in firing practice with live ammunition at the target ranges near the Bohnitzsch Kaserne and about 60 soldiers were instructed in the barracks yard on 20 March. They wore red-bordered black epaulets. Fifteen soldiers in coveralls fell in in front of the garages. On 24 March, about 120 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia and carrying rifles marched from the installation toward Ockrilla. About 60 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia drilled in the barracks yard by groups. On 27 March, 80 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia marched to the garages, while about 200 other soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets fell in for roll call in front of the billets. [redacted]
2. On 2 April 1952, the barracks installation in Zaschendorf, 2 km east of Meissen, quartered from 1,200 to 1,300 troops about 90 percent of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets. The remainder wore black-bordered black epaulets. [redacted] about 1,500 troops and four 37-mm AA guns were stationed in the installation, that the commanding officer was one Colonel Daranov (phonetic spelling) (fnu), and that it was still to be determined whether the unit would move to a summer camp this year. About 90 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets drilled at platoon level in the barracks yard on 24 March. Forty soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and 12 soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets practiced the construction of telephone lines along the Zaschendorf-Soernowitz road. About 600 troops assembled in a square were noticed on the drill grounds on 26 March. About 15 officers stood in the center of the square. About 120 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets marched into the installation from the direction of the target ranges west of Neusoernowitz on 29 March. About 30 trucks were lined up in front of the garages in the northern section of the installation on 1 April. About 80 soldiers fell in beside them. Two of the trucks carried a canvas-covered superstructure similar

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to that of a rocket launcher. About 80 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying submachine guns, entrenching tools and rucksacks marched from the installation toward Weissen led by a major. About 120 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were engaged in small-arms drill at platoon level in the barracks yard. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

* [REDACTED] Comment. The information confirms the 95th Tank Regt and unidentified motorcycle battalion of the 9th Tank Div in the Lohnditzsch Kaserne prior to 27 March 1952.

[REDACTED] Comment. As more elements of the 9th Tank Div and the 218th Mort Regt and the 216th (?) AAA Bn are also believed in Weissen, it is believed that these units are quartered in the Zschendorf Kaserne. The 37-mm AA guns indicate the presence of an AAA battalion. Colonel Baranov (fnu) was reported for the first time. Should a colonel be in command of a unit there, he would be commanding officer of the mortar regiment. The two trucks seen on 1 April were probably rocket launchers, which would indicate that, possibly, also the rocket launcher battalion of the 9th Tank Div is quartered there. The location of the battalion has hitherto been undetermined. [REDACTED]

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